

REMARKS

Status of the Application

By the present Amendment, Applicant is amending claims 15 and 16. No new matter is added. Claims 15-27 are all the claims currently pending in the application. Claims 15-27 have been rejected. The present Amendment addresses each point of rejection raised by the Examiner. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 15-17, 19-23, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Fukuda. Applicant is amending claim 15 to recite that the second conversion lens is exchangeable with the first conversion lens by a *sliding operation*. This feature was previously recited in dependent claim 16. In rejecting claim 16, the Examiner alleges that Fig. 18A discloses this claim feature. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Fig. 18A shows a cellular phone with a sliding lid 12 (¶ [0151]). When the sliding lid 12 slides upward from the position shown in Fig. 18A, the optical axis of the adapter optical system 28 becomes aligned with the optical axis of the image pickup module 18. However, Fig. 18A does not teach or suggest that the adapter optical system 28 can be replaced by a second conversion lens. On the contrary, Fig. 18A shows only a single adapter optical system 28 that slides upward to align its optical axis with the optical axis of the image pickup module 18.

Applicant submits that amended claim 15 distinguishes over Fukuda at least by virtue of the aforementioned differences, as well as its additionally recited features. Further, Applicant submits that dependent claims 16, 17, 19-23, and 25 distinguish over Fukuda at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 15.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 18, 24, 26, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Fukuda in view of Sladen. As discussed above, Fukuda fails to teach or suggest that the second conversion lens is exchangeable with the first conversion lens by a sliding operation, as recited in claims 18, 24, 26, and 27. Further, as explained in the Amendment filed on July 20, 2007, it would not have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to replace the adapter optical system 28 of Fukuda with the array of mirror elements 714 of Sladen. Therefore, Applicant submits that claims 18, 24, 26, and 27 are patentable over Fukuda and Sladen at least by virtue of the aforementioned differences, as well as their additionally recited features.

Request for Interview

Applicant respectfully requests an interview with the Examiner to discuss the arguments presented above.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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